

Texas Representative Roberto R. Alonzo's

Capitol Report



MISSION: Help our Troops Call Home **Cell Phones for Soldiers !**

Cell Phones for Soldiers is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing deployed and returning troops cost-free methods to communicate with family while serving in the United States military. Every year, millions of cell phone owners recycle an old phone or simply dispose of the device in the trash. Others may sell it through a traditional buyback service. But unfortunately many phones are discarded yearly instead of owners considering to [donate their old cell phones](#) to charities supporting our servicemen and women. The truth is that donating old cell phones, even broken ones, requires little time and effort, and can make a difference in the lives of our troops abroad. Here are five great reasons to donate your cell phones to **Cell Phones for Soldiers**.

1. Help Give Free Communication

By donating old cell phones, you can help our troops abroad stay connected with loved ones here at home. By relying on monetary donations and the proceeds from donated phones Cell Phones for Soldiers purchase international calling cards to send to our troops overseas. Since its inception in 2004, Cell Phones for Soldiers has provided military personnel with more than 192 million minutes of free talk time— all thanks to those who donate an old cell phone to this benevolent cause.

2. Make Families Happy

For every donated cell phone valued at five dollars, an estimated 2.5 hours of free talk time is provided to our active-duty servicemen and women. Donating to Cell Phones for Soldiers allows our troops and their families a chance to stay connected -- a chance to say "I love you" or simply "I'm doing ok." Hearing the voices of loved ones can truly be a source of happiness and gratification, one that most of us take for granted every day.

3. Make Money by Selling Your iPhone

You may also earn money by selling an old iPhone to Cell Phones for Soldiers. Depending on the condition and the model, you may expect to receive between \$33 and \$320 for the buyback of an old iPhone. Plus, each one sold to Cell Phones for Soldiers is tax deductible. So selling your iPhone to the Cell Phones for Soldiers buyback program, you get paid, qualify for a tax deduction and support our troops!

4. Help Preserve the Earth

A vast majority of unwanted cell phones are thrown into landfills every year. By recycling almost 11 million cell phones since 2004, Cell Phones for Soldiers has helped eliminate more than five million pounds of [eWaste](#) from landfills.

5. It Feels Good

It is often said that the key to happiness is helping others. When people donate their cell phones to support our troops, they know that they have done "the right thing" by making a difference in the lives of our active-duty military and their families. "Doing good" feels good!

For more information about the **Cell Phones for Soldiers** program, or how you can help in any way, visit their website at:

<http://www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com/>

Since its inception in 2004, **Cell Phones for Soldiers** has worked to keep military families connected by providing FREE communication tools to those serving overseas in the United States military. In seven years, the registered 501(c)(3) has provided troops with more than 2.3 million prepaid calling cards, equating to more than 200 million minutes of FREE talk time.

Cell Phones for Soldiers hopes to continue its mission to provide troops with FREE calls home through generous monetary contributions and the recycling of used mobile phones. Used mobile phones from all service providers are accepted. Each \$5 contribution, or donated device valued at \$5, will provide troops with 2.5 hours of FREE talk time.

Reminder: 2014 Texas AFL-CIO
Scholarship
Application DEADLINE:
Fri, Jan 31, 2014

<http://www.texasaflcio.org/index.cfm?action=article&articleID=14a6baff-582c-4f94-8215-598651080820>



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